



Climate Prediction Center's Central Asia Hazards Outlook February 15 - 21, 2018

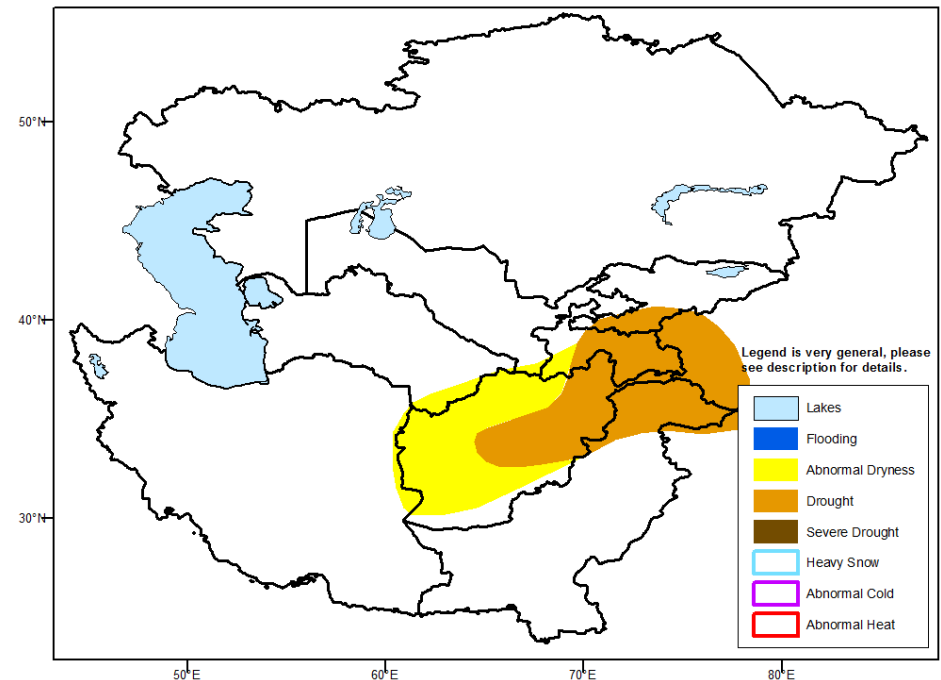
Temperatures:

Near to below-normal temperatures were observed across much of the region from February 4 to 10. Extreme minimum temperatures ranged from near -30 degrees C in northern Kazakhstan to near -10 degrees C in southern Turkmenistan and western Afghanistan. The GFS model indicates that maximum temperatures are likely to average above-normal throughout the region with the largest positive anomalies (more than 8 degrees C) across Afghanistan. Maximum temperatures are forecast to exceed 25 degrees C in the lowlands of southwestern Afghanistan and southern Turkmenistan during the next week.

Precipitation

Mostly dry weather returned to the region during the past week with snow limited to isolated areas. A drought hazard remains posted for areas where the snow water equivalent anomaly is largely negative. Since the RFE satellite estimates indicate that precipitation has averaged below-normal during the past 90 days, an abnormal dryness hazard is posted for the remainder of Afghanistan.

Based on the GFS model, widespread rain and high-elevation snow (local amounts of more than 25 mm, liquid equivalent) are expected across Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, southern areas of Turkmenistan and Uzbekistan, and northern Afghanistan during the next week. However, snow is expected to be limited to the higher elevations due to above-normal temperature



Note: The Hazards outlook map is based on current weather/climate information, short and medium range weather forecasts (up to 1 week), and assesses their potential impact on crop and pasture conditions. Shaded polygons are added in areas where anomalous conditions have been observed. The boundaries of these polygons are only approximate at this continental scale. This product does not reflect long range seasonal climate forecasts or indicate current or projected food security conditions.